



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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Week Ending November 20, 2011

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**Good Week for Field Work:** Pennsylvania had an average of 4 days suitable for field work. Yet again, rain has slowed field work. All across the state, producers continued their fall planting and harvesting. Primary field activities for the week were harvesting of corn and soybeans, baling corn fodder, mowing orchards, planting cover crops and preparing soil for spring planting. Fall plowing is 82% complete, behind the 88% this time last year, and behind the 5-year average of 86%.

**Nationwide as of November 13, 2011: Corn:** By November 13, corn producers had harvested 93 percent of this year's crop, 5 percentage points behind last year but 11 points ahead of the 5- year average. Double-digit progress was evident in states where harvest was not already complete or nearly complete. Above-average temperatures, coupled with little to no precipitation, aided a rapid harvest pace in Ohio during the week; however, overall progress remained well behind normal.

**PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending Nov 20, 2011**

Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
0	0	72	28

**Soybeans:** By week's end, 96 percent of this year's soybean crop was harvested, 3 percentage points behind last year but 2 points ahead of the 5-year average. Ohio was the only estimating state where overall progress remained behind normal.

**Crop Progress:** The year's corn crop is 84% harvested, behind the 93% at this time last year but ahead of the 5-year average of 83%. Barley is 91% emerged, behind the 98% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 99%. Winter wheat planting is 94% complete, compared to the 99% at this time last year and the 5-year average of 98%. Winter wheat is 80% emerged, compared to the 93% at this time last year and the average of 91%. The soybean harvest is 82% complete, compared to the 96% last year and the average of 85%.

**Winter Wheat:** Producers had seeded 96 percent of the 2012 winter wheat crop by November 13, on par with last year, but slightly ahead of the 5-year average. Emergence advanced to 83 percent complete by week's end, 3 percentage points behind last year and slightly behind the 5-year average. In Texas, emerging wheat stands in the northern part of the state were developing well due to recent moisture, while many southern wheat fields were negatively impacted by ongoing drought conditions. Overall, 50 percent of the winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, up slightly from last week and 4 percentage points above the same time last year.

**Crop Condition:** State-wide winter wheat conditions are; 5% very poor, 17% poor, 25% fair, 51% good, and 2% excellent. Pasture conditions are; 5% very poor, 17% poor, 25% fair, 51% good and 2% excellent.

## Weather Data For Week Ending November 20, 2011

Station	Last Week Weather Summary						April 1 - November 20, 2011					
	Temperature			Precipitation			Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
	High	Low	Average	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
<b>Northwest</b>												
Erie	64	31	50	8	1.31	3	36.81	7.73	111	3,189	542	5,263
Franklin_AG	67	28	46	7	1.40	4	38.55	8.13	131	3,008	599	5,030
Meadville-Port	65	26	48	9	1.57	4	36.23	5.20	125	3,079	875	5,123
Mercer	67	25	46	7	1.67	4	37.21	8.21	144	2,969	585	5,019
Springboro	65	28	47	6	1.50	3	41.37	13.39	128	2,672	85	4,671
Warren	61	27	46	7	1.66	3	35.48	4.54	119	2,778	455	4,767
<b>North Central</b>												
Bradford Region	62	25	45	10	1.27	4	36.82	6.25	135	2,337	682	4,235
Oswayo	61	23	42	6	1.01	4	35.95	6.73	121	2,278	442	4,153
Kane	63	24	42	6	0.29	2	41.04	9.70	116	2,208	594	4,074
Laporte	57	24	41	3	0.86	4	64.30	35.98	127	2,415	38	4,322
Lock Haven	64	26	44	4	0.52	3	39.38	11.63	104	3,191	660	5,234
Port Allegany	62	26	44	8	1.18	4	36.57	7.35	127	2,472	636	4,417
Renovo	64	25	44	4	0.72	5	39.57	11.82	125	3,130	599	5,171
Ridgway	66	24	43	6	2.02	6	36.19	6.16	131	2,487	602	4,434
Stevenson Dam	64	27	44	7	1.21	4	39.77	9.74	104	2,980	1,095	4,993
Towanda	62	26	45	6	0.79	4	48.92	25.22	105	2,821	423	4,847
Wellsboro	58	22	42	5	0.94	3	39.52	15.88	117	2,384	604	4,279
Williamsport	61	28	47	6	0.55	3	51.49	23.50	106	3,459	667	5,562
<b>Northeast</b>												
Hawley	63	23	42	4	0.57	3	52.78	25.91	104	2,536	495	4,518
Wilkes-Barre/Sc	64	28	47	7	0.65	3	44.48	18.61	106	3,181	534	5,266
Susquehanna	60	26	43	7	0.77	3	49.57	20.53	108	2,671	748	4,676
<b>West Central</b>												
Butler	69	25	45	5	1.79	5	35.12	6.81	124	3,028	525	5,093
New Castle	69	24	47	8	1.46	4	37.13	10.99	117	3,394	888	5,493
Slippery Rock	67	23	46	7	1.80	4	38.68	10.68	124	3,110	868	5,184
<b>Central</b>												
Altoona/Blair	70	26	47	6	0.79	3	36.06	10.78	102	3,391	726	5,483
DuBois	65	20	45	7	1.49	4	37.86	9.36	121	2,845	568	4,860
Lewistown	65	26	45	3	0.69	3	45.30	18.26	106	3,465	535	5,580
Middletown	67	28	48	5	1.01	3	56.25	29.24	98	3,851	522	6,021
Prince Gallitzi	67	24	44	6	0.56	2	37.25	5.08	106	2,802	673	4,781
Selinsgrove	66	29	46	5	0.81	3	52.71	24.53	109	3,209	489	5,274
State College	67	27	46	6	0.62	3	38.71	13.14	105	3,217	606	5,262
<b>East Central</b>												
Allentown-Bethel	67	26	47	5	0.78	2	51.11	21.80	98	3,647	608	5,785
Lehighton	61	26	44	2	0.83	2	45.41	16.12	106	3,065	138	5,133
Matamoras	61	23	42	3	0.64	3	56.45	26.80	107	2,753	140	4,793
Mt_Pocono	59	28	45	9	0.73	3	57.38	25.28	115	2,695	950	4,694
<b>Southwest</b>												
Pittsburgh/Alle	70	26	49	8	1.27	4	29.75	3.23	118	3,611	919	5,752
Indiana_PA	68	23	48	7	1.41	4	40.15	9.23	138	3,150	542	5,226
Myersdale	70	20	43	3	0.89	4	34.08	4.08	115	2,405	-93	4,342
Chalk_Hill	70	19	42	-1	1.60	4	48.58	19.56	125	2,484	-398	4,438
Pittsburgh Intl	70	25	49	7	1.57	4	27.13	2.54	109	3,556	736	5,679
Connellsville	74	25	47	5	1.77	4	39.66	10.64	137	3,414	532	5,535
Waynesburg	72	22	45	5	1.22	3	47.31	20.49	112	3,151	554	5,247
<b>South Central</b>												
Biglerville	64	27	46	3	0.78	3	42.24	16.50	88	3,653	397	5,802
Everett	73	21	45	4	0.81	3	38.35	13.50	101	3,027	369	5,087
Hanover	66	27	46	3	0.80	2	39.92	14.18	101	3,600	344	5,719
Harrisburg_AP	67	28	49	5	0.97	3	55.11	28.10	91	3,871	532	6,043
South Mountain	64	25	45	4	1.14	3	40.12	14.84	102	2,963	310	5,001
York	68	24	48	5	0.77	2	44.47	17.22	101	3,632	378	5,775
<b>Southeast</b>												
Green Lane	68	28	47	5	0.86	2	44.47	16.04	97	3,632	740	5,783
Hamburg	67	27	45	5	0.73	2	47.52	14.52	105	3,522	915	5,635
West_Chester	71	24	47	3	0.68	2	45.78	14.92	85	3,647	400	5,787
Lancaster	70	28	49	6	0.81	2	41.83	13.32	102	3,749	683	5,906
Neshaminy Falls	72	28	50	8	0.66	2	50.69	18.30	83	3,820	796	5,982
New Holland	69	30	47	5	0.82	2	42.90	14.39	97	3,718	652	5,867
Philadelphia	71	34	52	7	0.74	2	46.53	19.15	80	4,458	879	6,701
Philadelphia NE	70	30	51	6	0.57	2	46.98	19.60	88	4,139	560	6,351
Reading	71	31	50	8	0.74	2	40.61	10.25	101	3,977	977	6,158
Sellersville	70	25	45	3	0.98	2	45.40	16.97	93	3,362	470	5,463
Doylestown_AG	72	29	48	6	0.84	2	50.67	18.28	99	3,814	790	5,985

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

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## REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

*Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.*

### **Adams County, Judy A Behney (FSA)**

On Wednesday, about an inch more rain fell that halted field work. Corn and soybeans continued to be harvested. There is still a fair amount to go. The producers are trying to get their crops off as soon as they can. Weather conditions are affecting the yields. Some more wheat was planted last week. A few producers finished planting last week before the rains came. Overall, the producers are busy with getting crops planted

### **Bucks County, Michael Fournier (EXT)**

We still have a lot of corn and soybean acreage yet to be harvested. Some fields will have to wait until the ground freezes, especially those that were worked in the spring. No-till ground is faring better. Most of our wheat was planted later than normal.

### **Center County, Dick Decker**

Fall field work is coming to a close. Soil moisture is good going into winter.

### **Clarion County, Tom Tanner (FSA)**

The weather hasn't been ideal for fall crop planting. It has also been difficult getting corn and soybeans harvested.

### **Dauphin County, Paul H. Craig (EXT)**

It was an excellent week for field work. Corn and bean harvests are winding down. Later season crop harvests were delayed by high moisture levels. Custom harvesters are starting to get caught up. Some dry hay was made this week. Overall, it was not a good growing season. One producer summed it up well saying, "I will be glad when all the harvesting is done, equipment put away, and the barn door closed so I can forget 2011 and begin thinking of 2012."

### **Franklin County, Thomas Kerr**

It was dry for most of the week. This allowed for finishing of fall planting, and the soybean and corn harvests. Field work included hauling manure, trying to get the pits empty for the winter, baling fodder, and mowing orchards to eliminate feed for mice.

### **Lebanon County, Charlene Ziegler (FSA)**

Rain in the middle of the week delayed the already late harvest. When the weather cleared, farmers were out and about combining corn and soybeans. The final cover crops were planted.

### **Mercer County, James P. Rust**

Last week, the farmers were finally able to get into the fields with fall tillage tools. Bush hogs, stalk choppers, moldboard plows, discing equipment, chisel plows, and vertical tillage machines were all seen in the fields along with the combines harvesting corn and soybeans. Most beef producers have sold the spring calves and moved brood cows into winter pastures and feeding areas. Amish are busy hauling in corn fodder to the barns and chopping for winter bedding.

### **Snyder County, William C. Sheaffer**

The corn and soybean harvest continued during the week as weather permitted. In spite of the poor corn yields, there is a lot to be thankful for. Therefore, have a happy Thanksgiving.

### **Union County, James Brubaker**

This has been a very challenging year. It was too wet, then a dry spell in early July, and then a very wet fall. All of this, yet crops have been very good. There are still wet holes that are slow to dry up. We were able to get through to get the crop. We will likely finish today (Monday), and are very thankful for the blessings of this year.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending November 20, 2011**

Crop	Current Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Fall plowing	82	88	86
Corn, harvested	84	93	83
Barley, emerged	91	98	99
Wheat, planted	94	99	98
Wheat, emerged	80	93	91
Soybeans, harvested	82	96	85

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending November 20, 2011**

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Wheat	0	1	30	66	3
Pasture	5	17	25	51	2

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